

c. an abrasion resistant cover attached to and covering the heat resistant liner.

Claim 5, line 3, change "the sole" to read —a sole—

#### REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 11, 2002 has been reviewed. The requirement of formal drawings is requested to be deferred until completion of the action on the merits.

The 35 USC 112 rejection that the sole of the iron has no antecedent basis has been corrected in base Claims 1 and 5 by amending the adjective reference as shown above. Claim 3 was rewritten in an independent format including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and should therefore be allowed, along with Claim 4 dependent thereon. Claims 5 through 7 were similarly amended to overcome the 35 USC 112 rejection, as shown above, and should therefore be allowed.

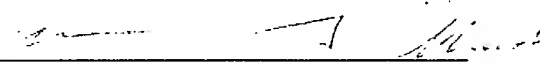
The rejection of Claims 1 and 2, as amended, under 35 USC 102 is traversed. A 35 USC 102 rejection requires a prior art reference to show all features the claim. Claim 1, as amended, refers to a non-transmitting heat resistant liner cover having a padded bottom segment shaped to cover and protect a sole of an iron placed thereon from marring or damage. It is structured with flaps to secure around the sole of an iron to prevent the heated sole of an iron from transmitting heat through the non-transmitting heat resistant liner to prevent heat damage to items stored along with hot irons, such as a travel irons, ski wax irons, pressing irons, steam irons, and the like. The non-transmitting heat resistant padded bottom segment of the liner also provides padding to prevent marring of the sole of the iron to prevent streaking or uneven heat application. Conversely, White et al, US Patent No. 5,664,349 incorporates a heat transmitting sole plate, which absorbs and transmits heat to more evenly distributes heat from the sole plate of the iron to reduce friction and protect fabrics being pressed from burning, scorching, and polishing. The White et al sole plate cover therefore discloses a sole covered iron, which transmits heat to aid in ironing; not prevent the transmittal of heat from the sole of a hot iron. As the White et al sole plate cover does not discloses all features of the claim the 35 USC 102 rejection of Claim 1 is therefore improper and should withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1 and 2, as amended, under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by McBride, US Patent No. 3,121, 965 is similarly misplaced. McBride discloses a heat transmitting boot for a steam iron to aid in ironing and pressing of clothes. Its object is to uniformly transmit heat and steam through the boot, and prevent the discharge of foreign matter

in the steam from staining garments being pressed or ironed. As such, it does not disclose the invention of Claims 1 and 2 providing a non-transmitting heat resistant iron cover to prevent the heated sole of an iron from transmitting heat through a non-transmitting heat resistant padded liner to prevent heat damage to items stored along with covered hot irons. As McBride does not disclose all of the elements of Claims 1 and 2, the 35 USC 102 rejection of Claim 1 is improper and should also be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments, Claims 1 through 7, as amended, should therefore be approved for issuance. If additional amendments are required, a telephonic discussion with the Examiner is requested.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2002.

  
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Marcus G. Theodore, Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 26,815  
466 South 500 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102  
(801) 359-8622

#### CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I certify that I facsimile transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing First Amendment to Examiner David T. Fidei on behalf of the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, at fax phone number (703) 872-9202, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2002.